

TROY A. CARTER  
2ND DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,  
AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS  
MATERIALS

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

SUBCOMMITTEES:

UNDERSERVED, AGRICULTURAL, AND RURAL  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

CONTRACTING AND INFRASTRUCTURE

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-1802

September 1, 2021

The Honorable John Bel Edwards  
Governor of the State of Louisiana  
Office of the Governor  
900 North Third St.  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9004

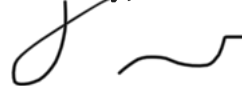
Dear Governor Edwards,

I write today to urge you to retroactively reinstate expanded unemployment benefits for Louisiana residents. This is a time-sensitive decision. On September 6<sup>th</sup>, the increased benefits expire federally. While you have the power to make these benefits retroactive now, this option ends on Monday. When benefits were reduced in Louisiana, many people were concerned that they were acting as a disincentive to return to work. While I disagreed with that reasoning at the time, I believe that the devastating effects of Hurricane Ida have made that discussion moot. Right now people across the state are recovering from one of the strongest hurricanes to ever make landfall. Louisianans, especially those who have been out of work, need money in their pockets right now.

By retroactively reinstating increased unemployment benefits, you will get funding to Louisianans who desperately need help. You will also get it to them when they need it: right now. Thousands of Louisianians are looking for ways to pay for hotel rooms, gas, and basic necessities. Many of those people are either in homes without power under a heat advisory, likely because they did not have the financial means to evacuate, or in hotel rooms they are unable to afford just so that they can have shelter. If those people were unemployed before the storm, the funding here would make a world of difference. It will also fill in a major resource gap that exists because Disaster Unemployment has not yet been implemented. Reinstating expanded unemployment benefits will enable people the means to access food and shelter; basic necessities that every human should be afforded regardless of their employment or financial circumstances.

I hope you will seriously consider this request. I look forward to working with you in the coming days to help Louisiana recover from this disaster.

Sincerely,



**Troy A. Carter, Sr.**  
Member of Congress

506 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-6636

DISTRICT OFFICES:

650 POYDRAS STREET  
SUITE 243E  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70130  
(504) 288-3777

3401 GENERAL DE GAULLE DRIVE  
SUITE 100  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70114  
(504) 381-3970

200 DERBIGNY STREET  
SUITE 320C  
GRETN, LA 70053  
(504) 381-3999

125 REGALA PARK ROAD  
SUITE K13E  
RESERVE, LA 70084

6803 PRESS DRIVE  
SUITE 166  
NEW ORLEANS, LA 70126

801 HARDING BOULEVARD  
BATON ROUGE, LA 70807  
(225) 726-2070